

Dear Business Colleagues

**AN OPPORTUNITY NOT TO BE MISSED**

**YOUR SUPPORT REQUIRED FOR AN IMPROVED RAIL TRANSPORT LINK FOR WILTSHIRE**



More information is available from <http://www.transwiltsrail.org.uk>, where both businesses and individuals are asked to give their views on the proposal.

Public transport group TransWilts Rail is growing momentum in its bid to provide a regular rail service between Salisbury and Swindon, with the aim of enhancing transport links in the region and offering an alternative to road transport. The line would be operated by First Great Western with links to rail services to the South West, South Wales, Midlands and London.

It would serve 8 stations with the possibility of 9 trains per day between Salisbury and Swindon, with the potential to add a ninth station at Wootton Bassett in the future.

Wessex Chambers of Commerce, TransWilts Community Rail are sponsoring the TransWilts Rail proposal. First Great Western anticipates that, subject to Government approval, the service could be operational from December 2011.

Currently a bid is being put together by consultants which will cost up to £25,000 which if successful will be an excellent investment for rail transport links in Wiltshire.

We are seeking businesses/organisations to become stakeholders by making a financial contribution to off-set the consultancy fees. Any contribution would be appreciated and stakeholders will be listed on the bid submitted.

The Wessex Association of Chambers of Commerce is responsible for collection of contributions for this initiative. Please make cheques payable to WACC and forward to Pentagon House, 52 Castle Street, Trowbridge, Wilts BA14 8AU.

Alternatively you can pay by BACS (HSBC Bank , Sortcode 40-13-17 Account Number 91116770). More information is available from [www.transwiltsrail.org.uk](http://www.transwiltsrail.org.uk), where both businesses and individuals are asked to give their views on the proposal.

The deadline for survey responses **is Friday, 18 February 2011**. Michael Williams, Chief Executive, of the Wessex Association of Chambers of Commerce said, "We have the opportunity that if successful this will provide business and the community at large with an improved rail service between Swindon and Salisbury with the possibility of up to 9 trains serving our towns each day. We would urge your business and your staff to complete the survey to support this bid,"

MICHAEL WILLIAMS, MBE

Chief Executive